Cal eConnect Update

April 26, 2010

From Cal eConnect Co-Chairs Don Crane and David Lansky

Welcome to our first Cal eConnect Update. We are in the process of building our Web site and will be launching it soon. In the meantime, we wanted to bring stakeholders up-to-date on Cal eConnect progress.

A lot is going on and sometimes it feels a bit like we're building the train as it's racing down the tracks. In addition to working through contractual obligations and initial funding, Cal eConnect has been putting together its Board, "transition" team, and implementation strategy to meet ONC deadlines, as well as creating a new non-profit public private organization and launching a search for a CEO. This update provides more details on our progress.

We appreciate the interest stakeholders have demonstrated in the new organization and look forward to working with all of you to advance the meaningful use of electronic health records in California.

About Cal eConnect

As you may know, March 8 the State announced its intention to designate Cal eConnect as the governance entity for HIE. The new entity was formed as a result of a joint proposal by leaders from two California non-profit HIE organizations -- CalRHIO and the California eHealth Collaborative (CAeHC) -- in response to a Request for Information (RFI) published by California Health and Human Services (CHHS) August 29, 2009.

Cal eConnect is tasked with establishing ground rules by which health information can be exchanged appropriately among clinicians, hospitals, health plans, patients, and government agencies such as public health. It will also oversee and manage implementation of HIE services throughout the state under a federal grant California received as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

For more details on Cal eConnect see our FAQs.

Board Members

We now have 10 of our 22 Board members elected. Consistent with state law (SB 337 – Alquist), Board members are being selected from state government, private hospitals, public hospitals, medical groups, independent physicians, employers, private health plans, public health plans, consumers, health information exchange organizations, labor organizations, community clinics, and informatics. The goal is to ensure that the needs of all constituents are heard and addressed.

To promote transparency in decision-making, Board meetings are open and meeting proceedings are published online. The next Board meeting is Friday, May 7 from 9:30 AM -12:30 PM PDT. Information on how to access the call will be posted on the site below in advance.

To review our two previous Board meeting materials, go to this link.
http://www.ehealth.ca.gov/Governance/tabid/84/Default.aspx

Board members elected to date:

Stakeholder Group	Elected Member	Organization
Co-chair-at large (medical groups)	Don Crane	California Association of Physician Groups (CAPG)
Co-chair-at large (employers)	David Lansky	Pacific Business Group on Health (PBGH)
Consumer	Marge Ginsburg	Center for Healthcare Decisions
HIE Organization	Bill Beighe	Santa Cruz HIE
Health Plan – public	Howard Kahn	LA Care
Health Plan – private	David Joyner	Blue Shield of California
Hospital - public	Ron Jimenez, MD	Santa Clara Valley Health and Hospital System
Hospital – private	Tom Priselac	Cedars Sinai
Physician - independent	Brennan Cassidy, MD	California Medical Association (CMA)
Safety Net Clinic	Ralph Silber	Alameda Health Consortium

CEO Search
The job description for the Cal eConnect CEO has been posted
http://www.ehealth.ca.gov/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=qcIy7WfkEMM%3d&tabid=84 and we
have begun a rapid search process. Please share these materials with anyone you think
might be an appropriate candidate – or pass on your suggestions to Cal eConnect
directly at: caleconnect@pbgh.org

Morgan Consulting Resources (MCR) (http://www.morganconsulting.com/Paula-
Morgan.php) was competitively selected to provide executive recruiting services to Cal
eConnect.

Legal Services Firm
Pillsbury was competitively selected to provide legal services to Cal eConnect. Gerry
Hinkley (http://www.pillsburylaw.com/index.cfm?pageid=15&itemid=22345)
and Allen Briskin (http://www.pillsburylaw.com/index.cfm?pageid=15&itemid=22344) will
serve as our legal counsel.

Priorities
Between now and the end of June, Cal eConnect will translate the HIE Operational Plan
submitted to the Office of the National Coordinator (ONC) into a detailed Implementation
Plan. The Operational Plan is the result of thousands of hours volunteered by
stakeholders all over California who participated in numerous work groups and meetings
and provided feedback.

The Implementation Plan will include specific tasks and resources required to carry out the Operational Plan's recommendations and execute Cal eConnect's strategy. Deliverables include a detailed work plan, business model, initial communications plan, and governance polices and procedures.

Over the next six months, the state will transition responsibilities to Cal eConnect enabling it to fully establish itself and develop policies and procedures to take on complete responsibility for the grant and supporting activities.

Transition Team
With so much to accomplish before the end of June, we have put together a "transition team" of folks who have experience and knowledge working on statewide HIE issues in California.

Cal eConnect is forming an agreement with PBGH to provide office space and staff resources, including project management staff, financial and accounting staff, and communications resources. In addition Cal eConnect plans to contract with CAeHC and its team of subject matter experts to support the development of the Implementation Plan.

Got Questions?
Please send any questions to us at caleconnect@pbgh.org and we'll get back to you with answers as soon as possible.